Remarkable Story of the Recognition and Advancement of a Musical Genius.

#### SOLD PAPERS IN CLEVELAND

Young Russian Changes Name to Italian, Joins Opera Company and Advances to Fame.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) NEW YORK, April 7.—In one of the most handsome houses in West Fiftymost handsome houses in West Fitty-seventh Street, there is living to-day a young man of twenty-three, who less than six years ago was selling news-papers, or blacking boots in the streets of Cleveland, Ohio. His wonderfully appld rise from obscurity and poverty to fame and wealth reads very much more like some work of fiction than anything else

to Tame and wealth reads very much more like some work of fiction than anything else.

Bernard Landino is his name, and in New York this name is in the mind of eyery lover of music, whenever one speaks of the latest "find." It is needless to say that there is no end of sensation ended by the story of his marvelous success, and there are those who are predicting even greater triumphs for this remarkable young man.

Four years ago, when Signors Mascagny and Mancinelli were in this country, Landino was hard at work selling papers in front of the "Cleveland Press" office, About the time that Mascagny decided to take his opera company on a western tour, Landino had dritted into a cigar factory, where he worked side by side with Miss Rose Harriet Pastor, now the wife of J. G. Phelpa-Stokes, who so nearly carried New York for the Municipal Ownership League in the last political campaign. Dissatisfied with cigar-making, and longing for the open air, Landino again sold papers for his living. He was inteteen years old, and his schooling had been so sadly neglected that he could not speak English driller than to make himself understood. He had come from Russia with his papents, when he was six years old, and had aided in the support of the family, who were often in sore distress. The family was large, and it was one continuous up-hill struggle to make both ends meet. Often the parents were out of work, and sometimes they had no home. The charity of their neighbors, silmost as poor as themselves, saved them more than once from the street.

Changed Name to Get In.

When Mascagny reached Cleveland, his Changed Name to Get In.

them more than once from the street.

Changed Name to Get In.

When Mascagny reached Cleveland, his chorus of singers had dwindled down to such an extent that he had to advertise for others to take their places. Among those who applied was Landino. He was the only one not an Italian who thus applied. His voice was heard and he was told that if he could think up an Italian plaine, he would be accepted. He modified his own name, and the result was "Landino." He staild in the chorus just two weeks, for Mascagny was quick to bee that he had a fine voice. Then a small role in "Iris" was assigned to him, and this he filled until the company reached Chicago. In this city the company reached Chicago. In this city the company reached chicago. In this city the company experienced such a succession of rebuffs as to have completely disheartened the conductor. It is strange that Landino, who was the only one not an italian in the company, should have then the only ond with any "luck." For it was here that Laigi Manchelli, who have the only one was also in Chicago, and had aftended one of the Mascagny operas. This famous conductor, who has since become recognized as one of the greatest Italian operatic composers ("Ero e Leander"), was at once interested in the lad of pineteen with such a fine voice, and when he learned that this boy had nover had a singing lesson, he was almost indignant. "Such a voice, and no trading. Such a thing is more than a disgrace," is what he said.

Given An Education.

"Its imous conductor, who has since the properties of him."

Given An Education.

### Given An Education.

Given An Education.

Fig. 7. The up-shot of it was that he came for such as the light of prominent persons in this city, proceeded the means for such study as the young man needed. Professor Creeco took charge of the studies, and Maie.

Italian Machin assumed the responsibility for his musical education. As a result of hard work, Landino now speaks English, Prench, German and Italian in faw which would puzzlo the best feholar to determine from what country fine really comes. He has a fine memory, and his answers are very clear on every subject. He is an athlete, and can do "stunds" on the bars. While his voice was his passport from the world of drudgery into that of luxury, and while it was his voice which received the first attention, he has received an excellent education, and he is still studying as hard as ever. "If the boys knew what fitting meant, you would never need a truant officer," is the way Landino puts it.

The success of Landino is assured. He

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the young man from Cleveland, Ohlo, whose magnificent tenor voice has created such a sensation in New York city. Landino was a newsboy and bootblack in his city less than six years ago.

who heard him went wild with enthusiasm. He has been heard at the Waldorf-Astoria in recitals, and his work is evoking no end of praise. At such functions as the Friedburg and Cashland musicales, he carried away the representatives of New York's social set. Before educators, who were gathered to hear him sing at the Evening High School for Men, he received an ovation. The Musical Art Society will hold its concert on April 5th, and it is here that the greatest honors that can be paid on this side of the Atlantic, will be given to Landino. To appreciate his tremendous success, one must not forget that six years ago he was unknown, and living under conditions which can hardly be thought of when one is in his prosent home. And he has studied only in this country, which, in itself, would entitle him to no small praise. But beyond all this is the fact that never before has an artist achieved such a series of triumphs as has this remarkable young man. He entered the musical field in January of this year, and when he made his appearance, he was scoffed at by those who did not depy him daily, and he has gained a long list of influential friends who are bent upon seeing him mount to the top rung on the ladder of fame.

Parents Provided For.

#### Parents Provided For.

Parents Provided For.

Meantime, the good fortune of their hard-working Bernard has brought harpiness and comfort to his parents, who still reside in Cleveland, although they no longer occupy their former smallld quarters. The patrons of the son have become the patrons of the parents, and sufficient capital has been given them to enable the opening of a business, which at this time is flourishing. The other members of the family still use their old name. Landesmann, but "Landino," the name taken by the young min when he first went with Mascagny, is to be used by Bernard in his musics career.

"I will not say that I am to go upon the operatic stage, or the concert stage,

"I will not say that I am to go upon the operatic stage, or the concert stage, for that matter. A little singing now and then keeps one in trim, they say. So that is my method. I shall work, and I shall work very hard, for the next two or three years. And then? Well, who knows? There is time enough to decide, but not enough in which to prepare. I must work." Landino's manly determination to win out is something fine to see.

see.

His instructors say nothing but good of him. They say that he had the talent, and that any painstaking and conscientious teacher would have been able to have brought out the same results.

a truant officer," is the way Landino puts it.

The success of Landino is assured. He has gone through the most thorough of musical tests, and has come out unscathed. He has song before members that the control of th

possessed a fine basso voice, and the tones of his conversational voice would tend to confirm this bollet. It is therefore with much astonishment that one listens to his high D, and one seems to feel that it is indeed some mysterious power which can permit one of his physique to sing out of all proportion to his appearance. While singing, he does not go through all those eccentric molions so common to those who sing in the higher registers. He stands before the higher registers and soul, carries off the honors most meckly, and is altogether almost as modest as he is musical—which in itself is no small thing.

A lot of hard work, scasoned with plenty of ambilion, a large pinch of determination, and a little flavoring of good luck—if there is such a flavor—has led to Landino's success, by far the most notable which has been met with by any American who has essayed the vocal art.

# COLONIAL CHURCHES IN KING WILLIAM

Peculiar Names and the Way They Originated.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

WEST POINT, VA., April 5.—"In Ye Olden Time," there were five Colonial churches in King William county, as far back as "early in the eighteenth century," ten miles intervened between them. One, at West Point, situated about two squares from York River. All that is known of this one is that it was on the site upon which the Baptist Church now stands, built in 1876, by the untiring efforts of Rev. Alfred Bagby and church composed of two men and nine Several tombstones, some of women. them enclosed by a brick wall proved about all that is know of a church in

the town. Ten miles further on, on the main highway, is old West Point Church

about all that is know of a church in the town. Ten miles further on, on the main highway, is old West Point Church, then comes near the court-house, Acquinton, ten nules further Cat-tail Church, and "Mangohick," In the extreme upper end of the county.

Acquinton, in Indian parlance, meant a "canoe." It is not known why this name was thought applicable to a church. Bishop Meade, in his "Old Virginia Parishes," refers to Acquinton Church in the following language: "It is a large old church in the form of a cross, having the alsies paved with flagstones." He was mistaken or rather misinformed as to the shape of the building.

Acquinton Church was built in 1722, of imported glazed brick and was rectangular in shape, with the pulpit in the form of an inverted bottle just inside the main entrance. The high back pews, therefore, faced both pulpit and door, rendering it unnecessary for any one to look around to see who was coning into church.

It was abandoned by the Emis-opalians about one hundred years ago, and subsequently used by various denomination, until it fell exclusively into the hands of the Methodists, who repaired it, and put in a modern nubit.

It was at this church that the celebrated "Parson" Skyren, about the last of the old line Episcopal ministers, preached his cloquent sermons, when, so anxious were the people to hear him that "they brought seats with them and filled the aisles," where he officiated.

"The good Parson" moved to Hampton Virginia, where he died and was buried. The walls of Acquinton-ris-tin-same as erected in 1722, and are probably rafe to stand another century.

At "Auburn," the old Pemberton home, built by Wilson Coleman Pemberton over one hundred years ago, in the front yard, is a stone pedestal, which one supported a marble basin,—the old baptismal font of Acquinton Church, sent over from England when the church was built, (1732.) When the old Episcopal churches were practically abandoned in the latter part of the eighteenth century, this religiound its way to the Pemberton place

low, swampy, marshy conditions of the land surrounding it, which brought forth abundantly "Cat-o-nine" tails, or for

brevity, Cat-talls.
"Mangohick" derives its Indian name "Mangohick" derives its Indian name from the village nearby, which in turn was named by the Indians, "Firewater" was sold at the village store, and, this same store, was a great place of rendezvous for the country gentleman to meet and drink and discuss the questions of the day.

Often they would imbibe too freely and would make a disagreeable noise, and the Indians, fallways hanging around, designated it as the place where, "Mango-hick."

## Smoking By Women.

State old England again shocks its laidles on one of the main railray lines between London and Liverpool.

On the Continent it is a common sight On the Continent it is it common sign to see women smoking in the cafes and other public places. No up-to-date American novelist would think for a moment of admitting to his exclusive pages a Russian or Epunish beauty who did not puff at a eligurate over her card table.

The moral American audience is apt to moral a merican audience is apt to moral a trees adds places.

gasp for breath if an actress adds pla-uancy to a scene of flirtation by nonchal-antly trying to blow rings in the air.

It feels that she has had only due pun-diment if she comes near choking in the

It feets that she has had only due plin-isliment if she comes near choking in the attempt.

But for the English gentlewomen, the pink of all properties, to smoke in a public car seems incredible. O feourse, in the privacy of her own home she may have indulged her little weakness for tobacco, or in company of other fair smokers even over the secluded dinner table. That is quite a different matter from boldly traveling in a car bearing the public label "Ladies Smoking." On the Continent she would have them for an excuse that her clothes smelled of tobacco smoke. Whatever else may be said of it, the new English venture indicates that some English ladies have a very practical way of being frank and honest about their petty vices.

vices.
General Superintendent F. L. Sheppeard
of the Pennusylvania says he shall not
be surprised if a demand for smoking
cars for ladies arises as early as next

cars for ladies arises as carly as next autumn.

"We have to keep abreast of the times," he said yesterday, "and the way smoking privileges are being d'fasanded by the fair sex in our botels and restaurants, who knows but the railroads will have to get in line as well?

"That women have acquired the smoking habit is true. The nicest women in the land have taken it up. Very well. With the stamp of fashion on the custom and with the English roads blazing the way, naturally it is not unlikely that American roads will have to 'give the fair smokers a place for themselves in the very hear future. When the Earropean travelers come back next autumn, if they feel that they want smokers for women, you may be sure we'll provide them.

"Of course, smoking cars for women

them.
"Of course, smoking cars for women will be provided on our trains de luxe trans-continental expresses, and so on Logically, if they were put on plain, ordinary trains there wouldn't be any demand for them."

any trans ... mand for them." C. F. Daly, passenger traffic manage of the New York Central system, agree with Mr. Sheppard. New York World.



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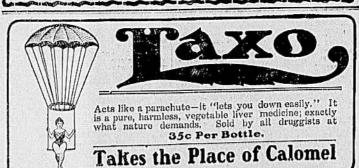
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Interviews and Correspondence Invited



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ANNUAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 21, 1955, OF THE CONDITION AND AFFAIRS OF THE WESTERN ASSURANCE COMPANY, OF TORONTO, DITION AND AN ADDE TO THE LAWS 6. THE DOMINION OF CANADA, MADE TO THE ADDITION OF UNITS OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, IN PURSUANCE TO THE LAWS OF VIRGINIA.

President—HON. GEO, A. COX.
Secretary—C. C. FOSTER.
Principal office—22 WELLINGTON STREET, BAST TORONTO.
Ceneral Agree -22 WELLINGTON STREET, BAST TORONTO.
Ceneral Agree -22 WELLINGTON STREET, BAST TORONTO.
Ceneral Agree -22 WELLINGTON STREET, BAST TORONTO.
Companized or incorporated, AUGUST, 1851; commenced business, AUGUST, 1851;

Loans on mortgage (duly recorded and being the first liens on the fee simple) \$15,000 K

Concusation	upon which not more than one year's interes	at in and sections sections and accommendations	-
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A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR	try of Portland Circ.) Done is I have cont.		
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Central Canada Loan and Savings Co. deben-	72,500 00 200,000 00	72,500 00 200,000 00	
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three months due.  Bills receivable, not matured, taken for fire, mar Aggregate amount of all assets of the comp		William St. Gray attended by the protection of the	453,700 18,940 \$2,456,786
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Total unearned premiums as computed above Commissions, brokerage and other charges due brokers, on premiums paid and in course of	and to become	ne due to agents and	1,537,002 50,178
Total amount of all liabilities, except Cap Joint-stock capital actually paid up in cash—de Surplus beyond capital and all other liabilities	ital stock ar posit capital	nd net surplus	\$1,707,194 201,000 548,591
Aggregate amount of all liabilities, including	- nold-up a	antial stock and not	STATE OF LESS
RECEIPTS DURIN	G THE YE		
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		10/15, 422 89	
Total	411,195 64	61,435 91 \$646,966 98	
Entire premiums collected during the year 52 Deduct reinsurance, rebate, abatement and re- turn premiums	823,417 47	115,342 23	
Net cash actually received for premiums	.030,232 74 Interest ander sources	1 dividends on stocks	\$2,458,857 67,887 3,863
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	JRING THE Fire. M ,225,704 80	1 YEAR. Larine and Inland. 1432,361 61	
peduct all amounts actually received for age (whether on losses of the last or, of previous years), \$8,394.59, and all amounts actually received for reinsurance in other companies, \$118,207.75. Total deduction			
companies, \$118,207.75. Total deduction	05,460 65	29,141 68 \$402,219 92	
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Aggregate amount of actual disbursements BUSINESS IN THE STATE OF VI	name n	DENG MILE PEAR	\$2,389,600
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Dominion of Canada, Province of Ontario, City of Toronto, County of To Sworn to, Jan	rk-ss.: unry 23, 1996 JOHN	, before N. H. HUNTER, Nota:	y Public
JULIUS STRAUS	s. c.	NE Am	nte
	CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF THE	INTAUC	
JULIUS SIRAUS 1013 East M			\$4. Ash

Name of the Company in full—THE EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY OF THE INITED STATES.

VPES.
If home or principal office of said Company — 129 BROADWAY, NEW YORK

TY.
Character of the business transacted by the Company—LIFE INSURANCE.
Prosident—PAUL MORTON.
Secretary—WM. ALEXANDER.
Organized and incorporated—JULY 26, 1859.
Commenced business—JULY 23, 1869.
Name of the Principal General Agents in Virginia—H. SWINEFORD & SON and W. A.
NNER; residence, RICHMOND, VA.

11, 195, 542, 892 00

RECEIPTS.

Extraordinary expenses incurred through the several examinations of the Society
Agents' balances written of "loss on policies by forger; through adjustment of tasets and ilabilities not previously carried on books
Reduction book value of real estate, reserve to provide for loss on agents' and other balances, sic. 9,390 033 97

\*Bonds, book value

\*Stocks, book value

\*Stocks, book value

\*Stocks, book value

Real estate, market value—unincumbered, 128,459,270,00; incumber

cd, 12,000,000.00

Lonas secured by first mortgage on real estate,

Cash in bunks, trust companies and companys office

Cash in bunks, trust companies and companys office

Lonas on companys policies, assigned as collateral

Promium notes, etc.; refund of taxes due from several States.

Loans secured by pledge of stocks and bonds.

Interest due and accrued

Rents due and accrued

Rents due and accrued

Uncollected and deforred premiums

\$413,615,722 70 credit nook virue of the securities owned, for which the Society docredit in its balance sheet.)

LIABILITIES.

Amount of losses unnaid (unadjusted)

Claims for death losses due and unpaid

Amount of matured endowments unpaid

Amount due for annuities

Amount of liability on policies, etc., in force Sist of December, 1905,

on basis of 3, 3½ and 4 per cent, actuaries and American ex
perience mortality tables

Amount of all other liabilities, viz.:

Supplementary contracts

Liability on cancelled policies.

\$1,451,110.00

Liability on cancelled policies.

865, 420, 99 

BUSINESS IN VIRGINIA DURING 1906. 

Deduct number and amount which have ceased to be in force during 11,521 Total number and amount of policies in force at end of year 1905... 10,121

Amount of losses and claims on policies unpaid December 31, 1964. No.
Amount of losses and claims on policies incurred ducing the year 1965. ... 118 \$311,383 6 Amount of losses and claims on policies paid during the year 1995....... Amount of assessments, premiums, dues and fees collected or secured in Virginia during the year 1995 in cash and notes overedits, without any deduction for agortoses, dividends, commissions, or other express PAUL MORTON, President, (Signed) W. ALEXANDER, Secretary,

2,686,395 00

State of New York, city of New York-68. 17, 1996, before CHARLES EDGAR MILLS, Commissioner,